

2003
Annual Progress and Services Report
for the
Consolidated Child & Family Services Plan

Section 1

Single State Agency

STATE OF LOUISIANA

Child and Family Services Plan

Section 1 Single State Agency

1.1 Single State Agency

Legal References

42 USC622(b)(1)(B)

42 USC677(b)

45 CFR 1355

45 CFR 1357.15(a)

45 CFR 1357.15(e)(1)

42 USC5101 et seq.

45 CFR 1340.1

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is the single state agency designated in Louisiana to administer or supervise the administration of child welfare services under Title IV-B subpart 1 and 2, and Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. In addition, the Department is designated to administer the Title XX Social Services Block Grant program, the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program, and the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (P.L. 104-235). The Department was originally created by Act 1 of Louisiana's First Extraordinary Session of 1988, amended by Acts 858 and 773 during the regular session of 1988 that called for the

Agency to become operative effective 07-01-89, and redefined in more recent legislation. The mandate of DSS is toward the development and provision of social services, improvement of social conditions for the citizens of Louisiana, and the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities for employment. In carrying out its responsibilities, DSS is committed to recognition of basic human and civil rights, respect for the integrity of the individual and family, and delivery of services in a fair, equitable and humane manner.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

Child and Family Services Plan

Section 1 Single State Agency

1.2 Single Organizational Unit

Legal Reference

42 USC622(b)(1)(B)

45 CFR 1355

45 CFR 1357.15(e)(2)

The Department of Social Services administers the State's Child and Family Services programs through a single organizational unit, the Office of Community Services (OCS). The Office of Community Services performs the functions of the state designed to provide comprehensive, social service and child welfare programs to children and families that include protective services, protective child care, family services, foster care, and adoption.

In general, services are administered statewide within a centralized organizational framework with 10 regional offices and 52 parish offices.